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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 WARSAW 000207

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STATE FOR PM/SNA AND EUR/RPM  
DOD FOR OSD/PA&E, OASD/ISA/EUR, OASD/ISA/NP, OASD/ISA/AP,  
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TAGS: [PREL](#) [MCAP](#) [PM](#) [KS](#) [KU](#) [QA](#) [SA](#) [US](#) [PL](#) [TC](#) [NATO](#)

SUBJECT: POLAND: 2005/2006 ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
COMMON DEFENSE

REF: A. 2005 SECSTATE 223383

[B](#). 2001 WARSAW 03661

[C](#). 2001 WARSAW 03734

[1](#)1. (U) SUMMARY: Over the last two years, Poland has been a staunch ally of the United States. According to the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces, Poland spent about 1,213,151,800 Zloty (\$370,994,434) and committed 4,122 troops to Iraq-coalition and NATO operations in 2005. In 2004, Poland spent about 1,075,707,300 Zloty (\$328,962,477) and committed 5,883 troops. According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland also contributed to the common defense through Tsunami relief, by preventing bloodshed during Ukraine's Orange Revolution and via building counterproliferation competence through the Proliferation Security Initiative. Finally, Poland's defense transformation process, underway since October 2004, continues to enhance common defense by stressing development of expeditionary capabilities within the Polish Armed Forces. END SUMMARY.

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Critical Notes on Sources and Methods  
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[1](#)2. (U) The General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces provided all cost figures not attributed to another source. As per ref A paragraph 9, costs appear in local currency, Polish Zloty (PLN). On December 31, 2005 the exchange rate for PLN to U.S. Dollars was 3.27 to 1 according to the Polish National Bank. The General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces cautioned that data from 2005 is preliminary. Final figures will appear in March 2006. The Polish fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31 and serves as the timeframe for all cost calculations. As per ref A, the report for a given year is composed of data from the preceding year. Hence, the 2005 report contains data from 2004, while the 2006 report includes 2005 data.

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General Assessment on December 31, 2005  
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[1](#)3. (U) Poland shoulders significant NATO and Iraq-Coalition responsibilities. In Iraq, Poland leads the Multinational Division Center South (MND-CS) with 1,450 troops. Since 2004, the MND-CS has focused on Military Transition Teams (MiTT) to support training the Iraqi Army at the division, brigade and battalion level. MND-CS covers two provinces, Al Quadisiyah and Wasit. In Afghanistan, 120 Polish troops support Operation Enduring Freedom and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) as Poland prepares to take over command of ISAF for 6 months in 2007. Poland provides 270 troops to NATO's KFOR mission in Kosovo. About 138 Polish troops are now supporting NATO relief operations in Pakistan. Poland will patrol NATO airspace over the Baltic States from January 1 to March 31, 2006.

[1](#)4. (U) In September 2005, Poland elected a new government (refs B and C) which decided to remain in Iraq through 2006 but reduce the number of Polish troops there from 1,450 to 900 by March 2006 and change mission posture from training-and-security to training-and-advisory. Poland started a Strategic Defense Review (SDR) in October 2004 which should finish in March 2006. This is part of an ongoing defense transformation effort in Poland that will include the delivery of 48 F-16s starting in November 2006.

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Contributions to NATO and Iraq-Coalition Operations  
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[1](#)5. (U) In this portion of the report, troop counts include the total number of troops rotated through an operation in a given year. Thus, the total troop strength at any given point in time was probably less than the "total" reported here.

[1](#)6. (U) 2005 Report (data from 2004)

Operation	Troops	Funds (PLN)
International Security Assist. Force	22	200,000
Prague Capabilities Commitment	0	191,664,000
NATO Response Force	52	190,000,000
NATO "Distinguished Games" Greece	52	300,300,000
NATO "Joint Guardian" KFOR	298	27,600,000
NATO SFOR	286	20,500,000
NATO training mission Iraq	6	600,000
Coalition "Iraqi Freedom" Kuwait	146	700,000
Coalition "Iraqi Freedom" Iraq	4,853	306,300,000
Coalition "Enduring Freedom"	168	10,300,000
Cost sharing in KFOR	0	27,543,300
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,883</b>	<b>1,075,707,300</b>

Note, in addition to the totals above, the NATO Response Force had 132 Polish troops on standby while the NATO training mission in Iraq had 36 Polish troops on standby in 2004

17. (U) 2006 Report (data from 2005)

Operation	Troops	Funds (PLN)
International Security Assist. Force	4	300,000
Prague Capabilities Commitment	0	678,716,000
NATO Response Force	138	190,000,000
NATO "Joint Guardian" KFOR	520	40,700,000
NATO "Active Endeavor" 2005	27	700,000
NATO training mission Iraq	8	800,000
NATO Pakistan earthquake relief	138	32,000,000
Coalition "Iraqi Freedom" Iraq	3,081	216,900,000
Coalition "Enduring Freedom"	206	17,000,000
Cost sharing in KFOR	0	21,537,400
Cost sharing in Pak. earthquake	0	14,498,400
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,122</b>	<b>1,213,151,800</b>

In addition to the total above, the NATO response force also had 400 Polish troops on standby in 2005.

Contributions to Humanitarian Operations

18. (U) According to the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Poland funded various humanitarian operations. In 2004, the Polish government gave 1,000,000 PLN to South Asian countries for Tsunami relief. This covered the purchase, transportation and distribution of humanitarian assistance. Poland also sent two experts to the region to help identify remains. In 2005, Poland's MFA gave another 2,000,000 PLN to Tsunami affected regions. In Afghanistan, the government of

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Poland provided NGOs with 500,000 PLN in 2004 and 750,000 in 2005. Poland donated 150,000 Zloty to UNICEF, to help Pakistan recover from the October 2005 quake.

Contributions to Capacity Building

19. (U) MFA also provided data describing Polish contributions to governance capacity in Ukraine, Iraq and Albania. During Ukraine's Orange Revolution of 2004, Polish diplomats lobbied hard for military restraint and civil control of the military in that country. Poland also provided about 170,000 Zloty worth of transportation for NATO delegates who visited Kiev, Ukraine in October 2005. To support law enforcement in Iraq, the Poles provided 10 instructors to the Jordan International Police Training Center throughout 2004. In 2004 and 2005, Poland served as the NATO point of contact in Albania at a cost of 65,000 Zloty per year.

Contributions to Counterproliferation

10. (U) Poland provides skilled professionals to allied counterproliferation efforts. In support of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), Poland played a critical role in planning and executing "Bohemian Guard," an arms interdiction exercise along the Czech border in June of 2005. In September 2005, Poland advanced the counterproliferation agenda by launching the Polish-U.S. nonproliferation working group. This forum for information sharing has since inspired a Ukraine-U.S. nonproliferation working group to start in February 2006.

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11. (U) In October 2004, the Polish Ministry of National Defense (MOD) commenced its Strategic Defense Review (SDR), a comprehensive assessment of the structures and capabilities that the Polish Armed Forces will require to meet projected challenges to 2020, focusing on critical links required with partners and allies toward Poland's effective participation in joint multinational operations. The SDR, which will submit its final report in mid-March 06, has sought to ensure that its recommendations are cost effective and financially viable, based on projected MOD budgets for the next 15 years.

Interim SDR findings have emphasized: acquisition and integration of NATO-interoperable C4ISR capabilities; responsive logistics systems; and air/ground transport platforms to enhance self-deployability and sustainability for Polish forces. In the interim, the Polish MOD continues to actively develop expeditionary capabilities by dedicating almost 20% of the defense budget to procurement of modern military equipment, ranging from wheeled armored personnel carriers and medium transport aircraft to communications gear and unmanned aerial vehicles. A considerable part of the investment is directed toward expanding the capabilities of Polish Special Operations Forces, which participated in NATO Response Force rotations in 2005.

12. (U) For further follow-up or clarification, please contact Pol-Mil officer John Gorkowski at GorkowskiJ@state.gov. Tel: (48) (22) 504-2671.  
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